

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1–14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) A method of making a plastic container, which includes the steps of:

(a) molding an intermediate plastic container product having a body and a moil integral with the body, the body being layered and including at least one layer of barrier material that extends part-way into but not throughout the moil;

(b) removing an upper portion of the moil in which the barrier material is absent; and

(c) removing a lower portion of the moil in which the barrier material is present, to form the container.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the upper moil portion is removed with a laser.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein a plug is inserted into an open mouth of the container product after removal of the upper moil portion.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein a tool is positioned with respect to the plug for removing the lower moil portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the tool comprises shear rollers or a laser.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the removal of the upper moil portion maximizes the extent of the barrier layer in the lower moil portion.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein following removal of the upper and lower moil portions there is provided a radially outwardly extending flange at an open mouth of the container.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, including securing a lid to the flange.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the securing is by double-seam crimping of the lid to the flange.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein a radial outer edge of the flange is trimmed.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the outer edge of the flange is cut on a circle located with respect to an axis of the open mouth of the container.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein a plug is inserted into an open end of the container product after removal of the upper moil portion, and the flange is trimmed on a circle located with respect to an axis of the plug and open end of the container product.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the barrier layer extends to a radially outer edge of the flange.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the upper moil portion is recycled.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the lower moil portion is processed as regrind.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the layers include at least one layer of polyethylene terephthalate (PET).

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the layers include inner and outer layers of PET.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the barrier material is EVOH or nylon.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the layers include the barrier layer between inner and outer layers of PET.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the layers include five layers in the form PET/barrier/PET/barrier/PET.

35-37. (Cancelled).

38. (Previously Presented) A method of making a plastic container, which includes the steps of:

(a) blow molding an intermediate container product having a body and a moil integral with the body, the body being layered and including at least one intermediate layer of barrier material that extends part-way into but not throughout the moil,

(b) removing an upper portion of the moil, in which the barrier material is absent, in a laser cutting operation, and

(c) removing a lower portion of the moil, in which the barrier material is present, to form the container, wherein step (c) includes inserting a plug into an open end of the container and severing the lower portion of the moil with a cutting tool positioned by the plug.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the cutting tool comprises shear rollers or a laser.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the removal of the upper moil portion maximizes the extent of the barrier layer in the lower moil portion.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein following removal of the upper and lower moil portions there is provided a radially outwardly extending flange at an open mouth of the container.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, including securing a lid to the flange.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein a radial outer edge of the flange is trimmed.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the outer edge of the flange is cut on a circle located with respect to an axis of the open mouth of the container.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the barrier layer extends to a radially outer edge of the flange.

46-48. (Cancelled).